

## REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The claims are 1, 2 and 4 to 12.

The above amendment is responsive to points set forth in the Official Action.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that claims 3, 7 and 8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. This has been accomplished by the above amendment which incorporates the feature of claim 3 in claim 1.

Further, claims 7 and 8 now depend solely on claim 1 as above amended.

Claim 11 now depends on claim 10, responsive to the rejection on indefiniteness in Official Action paragraph 2.

The rejection on prior art is moot in view of the incorporation of allowable claim 3 in claim 1.

No further issues remaining, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

Kazuhiro MACHIGUCHI et al.

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

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